

September 20, 2016
5:30 PM

The City Council of the City of Inverness met on the above date in Regular Session at 212 W. Main Street with the following members present:

President Ryan
Vice President McBride
Councilwoman Hepfer
Councilwoman Bega – *not present*
Councilman Hinkle
Mayor Plaisted – *not present*

Also present were City Manager DiGiovanni, City Attorney Haag, Asst. City Manager Williams, Community Development Director Day, Facilities Director Hodges, Interim City Clerk Jackson and City Clerk Davis.

The Invocation was given by Councilman Hinkle and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by the City Council.

ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

Councilwoman Hepfer motioned to accept the Agenda as presented. Seconded by Councilman McBride. The motioned carried.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING

None

SCHEDULED APPEARANCES

None

MAYOR'S LOCAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

None

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

None

CONSENT AGENDA

- a) Bill Listing*
 - Recommendation – Approval
- b) Council Minutes – 09/06/16*
 - Recommendation – Approval
- c) ICRA Board Resignation – Tim Nash & Charlie Wade*
 - Recommendation – Approval

Councilman Hinkle motioned to accept the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Councilwoman Hepfer. The motion carried.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

10)a) City Park Use Fees – Resolution* was addressed by City Manager DiGiovanni stating a review was conducted on the fee rental program for facilities in the City Park System, including rates to rent the Community Building in Whispering Pines City Park. The goal is to price-point fees to be commensurate with the value of a particular facility. Once a permit is issued, the facility is removed from public use and reserved for the paying entity. City Park facilities are in demand and constantly booked. Fees are part of a process to remove an area from public use, and off-set the cost of providing park services. Our goal is to maintain a balance that doesn't "over-tax" City residents, and keeps charges reasonable for anyone. All public fees are defined and authorized by City Council via adoption of a Resolution, with future changes recommended from time to time.

Councilwoman Hepfer motioned to have the Clerk read Resolution 2016-14 by Title only. Seconded by Councilman McBride. The motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2016 – 14

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF INVERNESS, FLORIDA, ESTABLISHING FEES AND CHARGES FOR THE USE OF CITY FACILITIES; ESTABLISHING NEW FEES FOR USE OF CITY FACILITIES; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Councilman Hinkle motioned to adopt Resolution 2016-14 by roll-call vote. Seconded by Councilman McBride. Roll call vote was as follows: Councilwoman Hepfer, yes; Councilman Hinkle, yes; Councilman McBride, yes; President Ryan, yes. The motion carried.

10)b) Sanitation Services – Annual Fee Adjustment* with City Manager stating the City has an excellent solid waste program that includes yard waste, bulk items and single stream recycling for residents. Rates are annually adjusted by contracts for all facets of the program. The City must additionally manage (adjust) rates for the shared dumpster program. The City's Commercial Rates for solid waste services are showing reduction for the ensuing fiscal year. Rate adjustments are made on an annual basis as part of the Franchise Agreement for Solid Waste Collection Services in the City. The Rate Schedule has been adjusted corresponding to the change in the Consumer Price Index and in accordance with the Franchise Agreement. The change will reflect a decrease of -.37%. The Shared Dumpster Program Sanitation Rates will be modified to meet this change. Rates will become effective October 1, 2016.

Councilwoman Hepfer motioned to approve the sanitation commercial rate change for Fiscal Year 2016/17, which will become effective October 1, 2016. Seconded by Councilman McBride. The motion carried.

10)c) City Utility System Tax – Ordinance* (1st Reading) with City Manager noting development of the City Budget for 2016/17 included the calculation of a service fee (tax) on the Utility System. The new fee is limited to those served within the City of Inverness. The State of Florida allows up to a 10% charge, with the proposed application imposing 3%, to generate some \$37,326.00 to support General Fund operations. Prior to actual implementation, a Public Hearing must be conducted and customers must receive a notice 120 days in advance. The City Attorney reviewed the Ordinance structure and language and finds it legally sufficient to proceed.

Councilman Hinkle motioned to have the Clerk read Ordinance 2016-721 by Title only. Seconded by Councilwoman Hepfer. The motion carried.

ORDINANCE NO. 2016- 721

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF INVERNESS, FLORIDA, AMENDING CHAPTER 20, TAXATION, ARTICLE II IN THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, "UTILITY TAX"; AMENDING ARTICLE II TITLE TO PUBLIC SERVICE TAX; AMENDING SECTION 20-16. - LEVIED, TO PROVIDE FOR A THREE PERCENT (3%) PUBLIC SERVICE TAX ON WATER; AMENDING SECTION 20-19 COMPENSATION TO SELLERS TO ADD THE SELLER OF WATER; AMENDING SECTION 20-20 DUTY OF SELLER TO COLLECT TAX TO ADD WATER; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN THE CODE; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Councilman Hinkle motioned to approve Ordinance 2016-721 on the 1st reading by roll-call vote. Seconded by Councilwoman Hepfer. Roll call vote was as follows: Councilwoman Hepfer, yes; Councilman Hinkle, yes; Councilman McBride, yes; President Ryan, yes. The motion carried.

10)d) Inspection Services – RFP* was addressed with City Manager noting the City has been contracting Building Official services and plan review for the last 4 years. The current contract concluded and competitive proposals were duly advertised and solicited for the ensuing fiscal cycle and beyond. Three responses were received and evaluated based on price and pending performance. The enclosed bid summary sheet is to reference and compare proposed pricing by each firm. Given the approach of “lowest and best” the Firm of MT Causley, Inc. stood out as the best choice. MT Causley has been providing services for the City over the last 4 years with a solid working relationship and approach to accomplishing the workload in the best interest of the community.

Councilman Hinkle motioned to award the contract for Building Plan Review and Inspection Services to MT Causley, Inc. and authorize that the Council President execute the document. Seconded by Councilwoman Hepfer. The motion carried.

10)e) Council Travel Approval* was addressed with City Manager noting that out of state travel for Elected Officials requires approval by all Council Members. Councilman Hinkle wishes to attend the upcoming conference for municipalities in North Carolina. Exposure to other communities is always rewarding. The decision lies fully with City Council and we will proceed based on your action. **This failed due to a lack of a motion.**

10)f) Bargaining Unit & General Employee Compensation* with City Manager stating the Bargaining Unit did not option to collectively negotiate this year, which allows City Council ability to make a determination on pay changes for all employees. Implementation of all changes will commence October 1, 2016, which represents the first day of the pay-period for the new fiscal year. Pay adjustments of \$1,000 increase to employees earning \$33,333. and below, and 3% for those above \$33,333 , including Bargaining Unit Members and general employees.

Councilwoman Hepfer motioned to ratify negotiations with the Bargaining Unit and additionally award non-bargaining unit employees a positive pay adjustment of three-percent (3%) exercising the above listed steps, calculated on base pay earnings. Seconded by Councilman McBride. The motion carried.

10)g) SAFER Grant Award* was reported by City Manager DiGiovanni that the application to secure funding that is designed to reimburse start-up costs for the Fire Department was approved in the amount of \$62,000.00, 100% funding with no local match. Council agreed this was great news.

10)h) ICRA Board Appointment* was addressed by City Manager that Mr. Kemper Willcut, a business owner in the City, has completed an application to express interest to serve in a volunteer capacity as a member of the Inverness Community Redevelopment Agency (ICRA.) The additional member will bring the Board to a workable number, but remains in need of additional members. Elected Officials are asked to recruit people you know that may be interested.

Councilwoman Hepfer motioned to appoint Kemper Willcut as a volunteer member to the Inverness Community Redevelopment Agency to a two year term. Seconded by Councilman Hinkle. The motion carried.

10)i) P/T Employee Construction Manager* was announced by City Manager that we are expanding the project team to add staff expertise in project construction. This will be part-time, only be engaged once per week during actual construction and/or as needed. The current team is fully engaged, and with multiple projects simultaneously moving forward, it is imperative that we expand project team staff levels to insure construction proceeds as it should to achieve desirable results and to protect the public investment. This additional position requires the use of \$1,000 in Council Contingencies to fund the position for the remainder of this year and the beginning of next.

Councilwoman Hepfer motioned to approve the position of Part Time Construction Manager and authorize the use of \$1,000 of Council Contingencies to initially fund the position. Seconded by Councilman Hinkle. The motion carried.

Councilman Hinkle questioned the impact of this position for the upcoming budget year, with City Manager advising it would be approximately \$20,000 to \$25,000 and depends on how the projects unfold once they commence.

10)j) Coast to Coast Bicycle Trail – Resolution* was addressed that as a Bicycle Friendly community, support should always be for initiatives that improve the

mobility of cycling in the State. The Florida Coast to Coast connector is a project plan that will connect multiple communities across Central Florida coast to coast. Adoption of this Resolution will place the City of Inverness with the Hernando/Citrus MPO in supporting the program in an official capacity.

Councilman Hinkle motioned to have the Clerk read Resolution 2016-18 by Title only. Seconded by Councilwoman Hepfer. The motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2016 - 18

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF INVERNESS, FLORIDA, SUPPORTING CENTRAL FLORIDA MPO ALLIANCE AND TAMPA BAY AREA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY MPO'S CHAIRS COORDINATING COMMITTEE AND THE TRAIL LEADERSHIP TEAM'S EFFORTS TO PROMOTE THE FLORIDA COAST TO COAST TRAIL OVERLAY FINDINGS RELATED TO SIGNAGE, BRANDING AND WAYFINDING; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Councilman McBride spoke to the trail system and the support from surrounding communities. He addressed issues in various areas of the trail and flashing lights, etc. Councilwoman Hepfer commented on future trail and cycling education. City Manager spoke to FDOT funding regarding trail crossing lights, trail use and tourism, relating to multi-model concepts, smart growth, and complete street principles.

Councilman Hinkle motioned to adopt Resolution 2016-18 by roll-call vote. Seconded by Councilwoman Hepfer. Roll call vote was as follows: Councilwoman Hepfer, yes; Councilman Hinkle, yes; Councilman McBride, yes; President Ryan, yes. The motion carried.

10)k) Citrus County Radio System Agreement* was addressed by City Manager DiGiovanni regarding an Interlocal Agreement (IA) with County Government (BOCC) to fund the City's proportionate share of the newly purchased and implemented county-wide Motorola Radio System. There are two tiers of funding in the Agreement: one being a ten-year maintenance agreement and the second is a ten-year commitment to the county's debt service for the initial purchase of radio infrastructure (tower, software, repeaters). The City purchased its own radios for the Fire Department, but use of the radios will be governed through the county system. The FY 16/17 budget impact will be \$1,486.00 for maintenance and \$5,218.00 for debt service, totaling \$6,704/annum. These are reoccurring annual costs that will be a commitment for a ten-year period. An increase can be expected each year for the maintenance portion of this arrangement.

Councilman Hinkle motioned to approve the Inverness Radio Maintenance and Usage Agreement to include Amendment One, and authorize the Council President to execute the document. Seconded by Councilman McBride. The motion carried.

10)l) City/Sheriff Dispatch Service Agreement* was addressed with City Manager referencing the agreement for dispatch services. He reiterated the previous discussion Council had regarding both the dispatch agreement and the law enforcement

agreement. There have been conversations with the CCSO determining different aspects of each agreement. City Manager spoke to the attached exhibits with Exhibit A showing both cities being levied the same charges. The second shows Crystal River being charged a fraction of what Inverness will be charged. City Attorney Haag has consulted with the Sheriff's Office to clarify the agreements. The goal is to maintain stability to the community, in conjunction with the Law Enforcement and Crossing Guard Agreements respectively that are with the Sheriff's Office.

City Attorney Haag addressed both agreements. He spoke of concerns regarding the Exhibit A and the cost difference between the City of Inverness and the City of Crystal River.

Sheriff Dawsy addressed Council and spoke to both agreements and the detailed aspects of each. It was stated the agreements can be revisited in 6 – 12 months to review statistics, various items, etc.

Councilwoman Hepfer motioned to accept the Dispatch Agreement and authorize Council President to execute the document. Seconded by Councilman Hinkle. The motion carried.

10)m) City/Sheriff Law Enforcement Services Agreement* was addressed with City Manager referencing the Inter Local Agreement (IA) for Law Enforcement Services, which was previously addressed by City Council, and approved with the caveat that dispatch services were inclusive. The agreement is being returned for Council to consider the proposal as presented. The City of Inverness has excellent relations with the Citrus County Sheriff's Office and work well with the members. Inverness receives added services beyond what is charged by general (county) taxation. The enclosed agreement by the Sheriff is structured to continue the program status quo through September 30, 2017 at the cost of \$775,529.00.

City Attorney Haag stated that this agreement is the same as last year, and that the Council has 3 choices regarding this. The choices are to have a City police department, contract with the CCSO, or do nothing.

Councilwoman Hepfer motioned to support and accept the agreement with the Citrus County Sheriff's Office for Law Enforcement Services through September 30, 2017, and authorize the Council President execute the document. Seconded by Councilman Hinkle. The motion carried.

10)n) Funding of Homosassa Springs Park Fish Bowl (*verbal*) was referenced by City Manager DiGiovanni noting the City was copied on correspondence by the City of Crystal River regarding a funding program.

10)o) ICRA Structure (*verbal*) was discussed by City Manager referencing the history of ICRA. Consideration is for Council to review the structure of the ICRA board and consider having the Council as the board members instead of a separate group for the ICRA. Research is required and this will come before Council in the future.

City Manager DiGiovanni additionally reported on the following:

- Thursday, September 22 will be the Final Public Hearing for adoption of the FY 2016/2017 budget at 5:01pm.

- There was a presentation to the American Planners Association in Tampa that was well received, and a presentation to the Hernando/Citrus MPO was today at the monthly MPO meeting, and appeared to generate interest.

COUNCIL/MAYOR SUBJECTS

Councilwoman Hepfer stated she will not be attending October 4, 2016 Council meeting as she will be recovering from hip surgery.

Councilman Hinkle spoke of the relationship with the Citrus County Sheriff's Office.

Councilman McBride spoke of the MPO meeting and the I-75 task force discussion. The Suncoast 2 will be built going North sometime in the future.

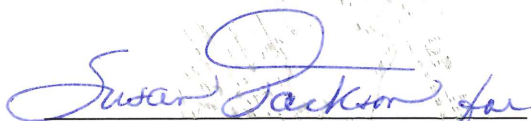
President Ryan attended the ribbon cutting at Citrus Memorial for the Women & Children's Center, as well as the ribbon cutting for Modera Wealth Management.

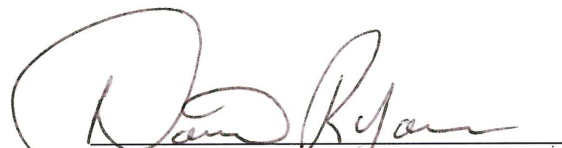
City Manager DiGiovanni questioned Councilman McBride about the MPO regarding the City's presentation and funding programs the MPO might try to develop with Councilman agreeing that is a possibility and to contact Dennis Dix.

CITIZENS NOT ON AGENDA

Karen Esty disagreed with the statement regarding the Suncoast 2 extension made by Councilman McBride and spoke to aspects of the parkway. She thinks the Council as the ICRA board is a good idea, and questioned the numbers provided by the Sheriff's Office.

Meeting adjourned at 7:09pm.


City Clerk DEBORAH DAVIS


Council President